

# Version control with examples for SVN

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# "FINAL".doc



FINAL.doc!



FINAL\_rev.2.doc



FINAL\_rev.6.COMMENTS.doc



FINAL\_rev.8.comments5.  
CORRECTIONS.doc



FINAL\_rev.18.comments7.  
corrections9.MORE.30.doc



FINAL\_rev.22.comments49.  
corrections.10.#@\$%WHYDID  
ICOMETOGRADSCHOOL????.doc



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## What is a version control system?

A version control system is a way to manage changes to documents, source code, and other collections of information.

# What do I use version control for?

- ▶ papers
- ▶ code
- ▶ notes
- ▶ C.V.

# How version control helps

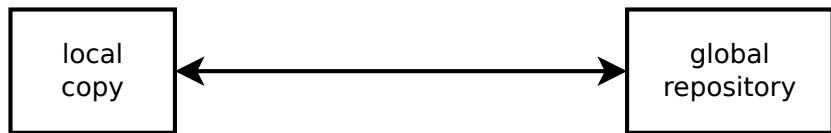
- ▶ Collaboration.
  - ▶ Once you commit a change, it's automatically added to everyone's code when they update.
- ▶ Tracking changes.
  - ▶ For posterity.
  - ▶ To see when you thought of something.
  - ▶ To help in debugging.
  - ▶ To roll back to an old version (to compare results, remove a bug that was added, etc.).
  - ▶ To add back features that were removed.
- ▶ Automatic backups.
- ▶ Encourages sharing of information and tools.

# Terminology

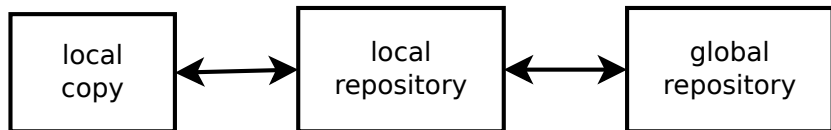
- ▶ VCS — version control system
- ▶ DVC(S) — distributed version control (system)
- ▶ repository — a collection of information and its versions
- ▶ commit — tells the VCS that a file or files are ready to be shared

## Distributed vs. centralized version control

Centralized version control



Distributed version control



# Advantages and disadvantages of DVC

## Advantages

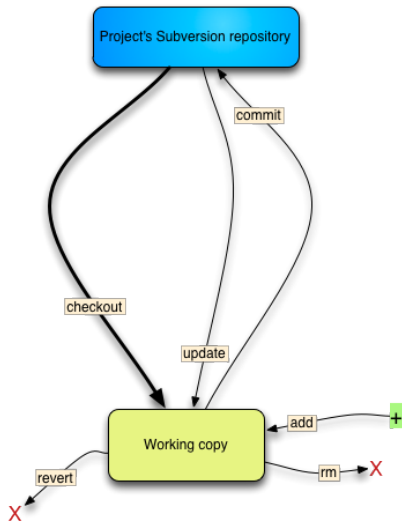
- ▶ Many operations are fast because repository files are local.
- ▶ You always have a full backup of the repository.
- ▶ Can be easier to develop large changes you don't want to distribute to everyone yet.

## Disadvantages

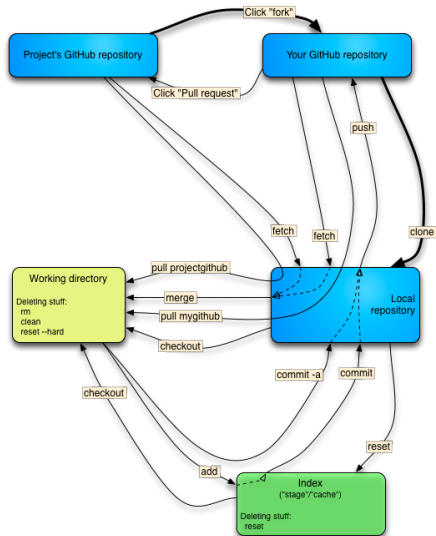
- ▶ Operations are more complex.



# SVN (centralized)



# git (distributed)



# SVN vs. git

- ▶ SVN — popular centralized VCS
- ▶ git — popular distributed VCS

## Advantages of SVN

- ▶ Simple and easy to learn. (Mercurial is an easier DVCS than git.)
- ▶ Robust tools and integration with other programs.
- ▶ Will add version information to files.
- ▶ Can have a global version number for a project.

## Advantages of git

- ▶ Easier branching and merging. (Might be better for very large projects like the Linux kernel.)

## Take home message

For moderate sized projects, it's more important that you use a VCS than that you use a specific VCS.

# How to use SVN

- ▶ `svn checkout REPOSITORYURL` — get the latest copy of a project
- ▶ `svn update` — update the current directory and all below it to the latest
- ▶ `svn add FILENAME` — marks a file to be added in the next commit
- ▶ `svn delete FILENAME` — marks a file to be deleted in the next commit
- ▶ `svn copy SOURCE TARGET` — marks a file to be copied in the next commit (also see `move`)
- ▶ `svn revert SOURCE` — reverts changes made to a file (also undoes adds and deletions)
- ▶ `svn commit -m "Message text."` — commit changes in the current directory

## SVN keywords (Adding version data to files)

This is useful if you want a program (or even  $\text{\LaTeX}$  document) to say which revision number it's at when you run.

1. `svn propset svn:keywords "Id Author Date Rev"`  
`FILE`
2. Now you can add the following lines to the file. These lines will be updated when you do `svn update`.
  - ▶ `$LastChangedBy: $`
  - ▶ `$LastChangedRevision: $`
  - ▶ `$LastChangedDate: $`

When updated you'll see something like this:

- ▶ `$LastChangedBy: ben $`
- ▶ `$LastChangedRevision: 36 $`
- ▶ `$LastChangedDate: 2012-10-04 22:10:37 -0400 (Thu, 04 Oct 2012) $`

# SVN GUIs

- ▶ SmartSVN (Windows, Mac)
- ▶ RapidSVN (Linux)

.svn directory

Don't delete this. It's used by SVN to store information.



## Good practices

- ▶ Test before you commit.
  - ▶ Compile in debug mode.
  - ▶ Run a related case to make sure it works correctly.
- ▶ Use descriptive commit messages. Putting keywords in the front helps when scanning through the logs.
  - ▶ e.g., *FDS User's Guide: Correct a name of a beta tester.*

## Example: Getting the latest FDS source code

```
svn checkout
```

```
http://fds-smv.googlecode.com/svn/trunk/FDS/trunk/  
fds-smv-read-only
```

## Example: Committing a change

- ▶ command line
- ▶ GUI

## Example: Putting version information in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

```
\usepackage{svn-multi}  
\svnidlong  
{ $LastChangedBy: ben $}  
{ $LastChangedRevision: 36 $}
```

And at the end I have

```
Revision number: \svnrev
```

## Setting up a new SVN project

1. `cd /home/svn/` (Create this directory if it does not exist.)
2. `sudo mkdir myproject`
3. `sudo svnadmin create /home/svn/myproject`
4. `sudo chown -R root:subversion myproject1`
5. `sudo chmod -R g+rws myproject`
6. `cd /home/svn/`
7. `svn co file:///home/svn/myproject`  
or if you are using a remote svn+ssh project  
`svn co svn+ssh://USERNAME@SERVER/home/svn/myproject`
8. `cd myproject`
9. `svn add *`
10. `svn commit -m "Added all myproject files." *`

<sup>1</sup>For Ubuntu, replace root with the username of a sudoer (usually you).

## Some other useful commands and tools

- ▶ Graphical diff (meld, SmartSVN)
- ▶ Resolve a conflict  
`svn resolve FILENAME`
- ▶ Remove locks and complete operations.  
`svn cleanup`
- ▶ List all changed files.  
`svn status | grep -v ?`
- ▶ List all of a user's commits. *This is slow!*  
`svn log | sed -n '/username/,/-----$/ p'`
- ▶ Return to an older version.  
`svn update -r 1234`
- ▶ Edit existing log entry.  
`svn propset -r N --revprop svn:log "[new log message]" REPOSITORYURL --username USERNAME`